



Taft And The War Danger

WE have Senator Taft's assurance that there is no danger of war, which makes us all the more nervous when we recall his inability to see a military threat in Europe made it crystal clear that the present "cold war" between the United States and Europe can end only in a shooting war unless the power struggle is halted soon before a true peace can be made.

Up to now, Senator Taft has been widely credited with sincerity and forthrightness and his various illogical actions and statements have been charged to the middle-headedness and confusion which seem to be pardonable in a Republican leader who hopes to get himself nominated and elected by the President.

However, in his latest exhibition of complacency in the midst of a war crisis, the Ohio Senator obviously believes his own soothing words.

Mr. Taft's statement that there is no war danger was made in a speech in which he crossed himself up to vote for the Marshall Plan, which he had sought to emasculate and delay through many months of Congressional debate and maneuvering. Significantly, the Ohio Senator finally voted for the European Recovery Program because he regarded it as a war measure, explaining that it was justified "by the world battle against Communism."

It is interesting to note that the Senator's explanation without economic justification.

"We may lose every cent we put up, but it seems to me there is a chance it will aid the battle against Communism," he said.

"The stakes are so high that I believe we should take the chance."

This confession of Mr. Taft's awareness

of the war danger completely contradicts his assertion that there is no reason for alarm. It came at a moment when events in Europe made it crystal clear that the present "cold war" between the United States and Europe can end only in a shooting war unless the power struggle is halted soon before a true peace can be made.

Indeed, the Senator's curious speech serves principally to emphasize the fact that all along he has been a leader in the movement to stand against wartime Communism.

His efforts to conjure away the war peril that now is upon us cannot conceal the fact that he is one of the principal architects of this war crisis.

Mr. Taft has had to maintain the illusion that there is no emergency in order to justify his opposition to Universal Military Training, his program for a huge Federal cut, his stand against wartime economic controls and his delaying action against the Marshall Plan. He now has served notice that he is going ahead with his campaign to appeal to isolationists, parading in conversations and public hearings groups. That may help in the Presidential race even though it hurries America unprepared toward war with the Soviet.

The Taft performance to date is not that of a confuser but of a man who has mastered in the art of political hocus-pocus.

People's Platform

What They Say About Pearson

(NOTE: Herewith a few of the letters which have been received by The News in response to the request for readers' opinions on the editorial Drew Pearson. Letters on both sides of the question will be published, the mail that is running heavily in Pearson's favor. —E.A.)

CHARLOTTE

Editors: The News:

IN ANSWER to your request for opinions regarding Drew Pearson's daily column carried in your newspaper, I am writing you to express my opinion. My articles and look forward to receiving your paper and reading said articles every day.

When I say "we" I mean I explain it as speaking for my family. However, I am sure thousands, yes hundreds of thousands, feel the same as we do. I say this because I travel the United States and many instances the subject of Drew Pearson's articles come up in conversations and I have yet to find a man to state they do not like him for his frank and honest information set forth in his articles. In my opinion and the opinions of my family and friends, I want to say there isn't a writer that can match the man Drew Pearson.

He has a big job to perform and any man who performs big jobs will from time to time make mistakes. However, the man who does as well as Drew Pearson—and in his predictions of things to come he has proven said predictions are only turning to another paper that carried his articles. I say this because we have learned to be without his information during the next several years, and as long as he follows his honest and frank policy, let us read his news.

W. S. BLACKMON, JR.
 1510 Euclid Ave.

Optimists And The Boys

ANNOUNCEMENT by the Charlotte Optimist Club of the expansion of the Junior Optimist program serves to bring into sharp focus the importance of the work the Optimists have undertaken among the City's boys.

The Club has been operating the Junior Optimist Center on North Brevard Street for the past four years and these years have been marked by fine accomplishments in a worthwhile program of recreation designed to attract the youth of the section.

It is encouraging, too, to note that the Optimists are planning to open at least two more recreation centers in other sections of the city.

The aim of the Club in establishing these recreation centers was stated simply as to "keep the boys off the street."

The Club has been very successful in its program at the North Brevard Park and the employment of Marion (Footie) Woods as athletic director and coach. The expansion offers an enlargement of the service that has been worth so much to so many boys. The Junior Optimist program means much to the City and the Optimists and has gained experience in leadership as a member of the coaching staff at Central and Harding High Schools and at the Charlotte Center of the University of

North Carolina, is well fitted for the job of directing the recreation program. He has worked with boys, understands their problems and his technical knowledge and skill will enable him to develop athletic talent among the Junior Optimists.

The Optimists have spent \$22,500 in developing the North Brevard recreation center since inception of the program four years ago. The North Brevard Club is ready to go ahead with the construction of a swimming pool and the erection of a gymnasium at a cost of \$80,000. Thus the North Brevard Club has become one of the major recreation establishments in the city.

The Junior Optimists operate under the general supervision of a committee of the Optimist Club headed by Lawrence Mason. Mr. Mason, members of his committee, and the membership of the club generally, have given generously of their time and money for the development of the program. The expansion offers an enlargement of the service that has been worth so much to so many boys. The Junior Optimist program means much to the City and the Optimists and has gained experience in leadership as a member of the coaching staff at Central and Harding High Schools and at the Charlotte Center of the University of

Man To Be Respected

GREENVILLE

NEW YORK

WE are angry because we are losing in Europe; and we are losing in Europe because we are not being defensive against Communism. Instead of on the offensive for peace.

There was one thing missing from Secretary Marshall's warning last week about the "loss of the loss" situation. . . . and that was a direct demand upon Moscow for withdrawal of its troops from Europe.

White was in the Army. I found that he enlisted had a friend in Pearson that could not be surprised. In his constant war on industry and industry he frequently stepped on the toes of some of the self-styled industrialists in the Army—much to the satisfaction of the brow-beaten enlisted men. On more than one occasion has he intervened and helped some enlisted man who was getting a "raw deal" from his organization.

One is sometimes judged by his enemies as well as his friends. If this is the case in this instance, then Drew Pearson is certainly to be respected, for among the men who do not, and did not like him are Harry S. Truman and Senator Billie of Mississippi.

—DOUGLAS REDDICK.

Why Peace Defensive?

GREENVILLE

NEW YORK

WE are angry because we are losing in Europe; and we are losing in Europe because we are not being defensive against Communism. Instead of on the offensive for peace.

There was one thing missing from Secretary Marshall's warning last week about the "loss of the loss" situation. . . . and that was a direct demand upon Moscow for withdrawal of its troops from Europe.

White was in the Army. I found that he enlisted had a friend in Pearson that could not be surprised. In his constant war on industry and industry he frequently stepped on the toes of some of the self-styled industrialists in the Army—much to the satisfaction of the brow-beaten enlisted men. On more than one occasion has he intervened and helped some enlisted man who was getting a "raw deal" from his organization.

One is sometimes judged by his enemies as well as his friends. If this is the case in this instance, then Drew Pearson is certainly to be respected, for among the men who do not, and did not like him are Harry S. Truman and Senator Billie of Mississippi.

—DOUGLAS REDDICK.

Charles I. Burkholder's Gifts

CHARLES I. BURKHOLDER was the embodiment of a rare combination of notable qualities and attributes: industry, leadership and friendship. His death at the age of 75 removes from the electrical industry's national scene one of the individually most influential and powerful men who have lived in the amazing development of Piedmont Carolina's industrial economy.

Several years of close association with the late General William W. Rouse III, the courage and foresight of the then young engineer from Illinois who later became a pioneer, guardian and meticulous treasury of the Duke Power Co. in a leadership role for over eight years. Mr. Burkholder was associated with the General Electric wizard, in 1906, James B. Duke and W. S. Lee, the latter Duke's chief engineer. Mr. Burkholder was the Duke power organization at Charlotte.

A volume might well be written from the technical and scientific viewpoint regarding the practical imagination, effective leadership and scientific craftsmanship of Mr. Burkholder. The electrical world knew him well and admiringly. As a friend and citizen he was good. As a benefactor

of the Carolina public, he attained greatness that always was distinguished by his noble character and willingness to share credit for accomplishment.

Mr. Burkholder became known among the company's corps of engineers as "The Old Master". Along with his vision and the technical expertise in electrical science, he possessed an almost uncanny ability to be beyond industrial horizons in assessing future requirements of Piedmont area electric generation and transmission. A realist, Mr. Burkholder, foreseeing Piedmont economic growth, realized that generating electrical power by water power involved dependence upon a distant state and the development of efficient and adequate steam plants to provide protection against low water and consequent economic crises.

And, while so doing, Burkholder, the man, surrounded Burkholder, the engineer, with a staff of able assistants—he preferred to refer to them as associates. He leaves to their associates the enduring inspiration of his leadership in meeting the tasks that lie ahead in the building of the Piedmont.

Strong Editorial Page

CHAPEL HILL

IT HAS been a genuine pleasure to read The Charlotte News for past few months. Its size, variety of features, and technical excellence are all commendable. Most appealing to me has been the progressive, forward-looking policy of the editorial page.

Among the merits of the editorial page I include the choice of syndicated columnists as representative of differing American thought; the best collection of any newspaper in the State. Drew Pearson is well worth reading. His news is not only good, it is public service. Pearson, Grafton, Childs, you own a strong editorial page.

—JAMES P. DEAVOR.

No Sale For Pearson

CHARLOTTE

Editors: The News:

IN MY opinion your paper would be much better without the aid of Drew Pearson. Perhaps the better newspaper an "appreciative" him? more. Would also including back of C. Paul.

—L. D. BRIMER.

Exit The Martians

MUCH as we endorse scientific progress, we can't help feeling lonely that the Martians are no more. Astronomers, it is true, have long been throwing cold water on our speculations about the inhabitants of our neighboring planet. But knowing scientists are by nature killjoys of our will to believe fascinating suppositions, we still look at those pictures of those alien creatures looked at Mars with the aid of some new devices in the giant telescope at McDonald Observatory in Texas just as the planet has come into the most favorable conditions for study, and they declare that the only life possible on the frigid globe would be mosses and lichens. Even the famous canals are definitely credited to nature.

That means no more pictures of those overcivilized, top-heavy, hairless men with big bulging brows and diminishing chin. It means no more Martian monsters or

goddesses in fiction, no radio flashes of Martian invaders, no more lone Martian travelers, who in the Gulliver tradition marvel at our weird civilization, no more looking forward to a visit in a blimped state on Mars after we are promoted from this earth, no more dreaming of the day when we will be as cosmically advanced as the Martians.

What will the satirists do? What will the Wells and DuMauriers of the future write about? How will all of us get along without the mysterious Martians to stir our imaginations? Perhaps our best comfort is that some scientists promise that our great-grandchildren will be able to take trips to the moon.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATIC chieftains made some progress in healing "civil rights" bitterness during their closed-door sessions last week—but not too much.

"This time some of the rebellion came not merely from the South, but from the North. Ed Flynn, boss of the Bronx who has made his name by besting the Truman administration in 1944, declined to attend. Drew Pearson, without comment, refused to attend. President Truman did not attend. Flynn sent word he was not coming to Washington to play ring-around-the-roses."

Ed Kelly, ex-Mayor of Chicago and another stalwart who helped put Truman in office, also failed to show up.

On the other hand, homespun ex-Governor Bob Kerr of Oklahoma, keynote of the last Democratic convention in 1944, this time revealed the drive to restore harmony.

"I was present at the meeting," said Kerr, "and I know that the uppermost in the minds of all Democrats, we got to work together as a united party. The Democratic Party is big enough to have disagreement—even big disagreements like this one—and still present a united front."

Kerr spoke after Chairman Howard McGrath had argued, implied and coaxed that Democratic factions patch up their differences in the last days of their careers.

"I'm afraid that the President's message may not have been timed well and some may object to the manner in which it was presented to Congress," said McGrath, "but after all it is the mandate of the party. Civil rights was the subject of the editorial in the News. The President was asked Congress to put into law something which the Democratic Party already is committed to."

McGrath went on to point out that Truman's message was misunderstood by many people, especially that part relating to "segregation" in interstate transportation. All the President did, in effect, was to call attention to a Supreme Court ruling that Jim Crow laws were illegal on buses and other carriers in interstate transportation, the Democratic chairman emphasized.

Republicans Have Troubles, Too

WASHINGTON

McGRATH got a strong support from his fellow Rhode Island Senator, Theodore Green, and from Indiana's bulkier Frank McCall.

"The people of Indiana are traditionally against third parties," declared the alert 81-year-old Senator from Rhode Island. "The Republicans have their difficulties, too—over the issue of choosing a nominee for President. But I think within Republican ranks will become more and more bitter as the campaign wears on."

"Not that I am not too much against a strong candidate don't make sense," continued Green. "We can win with him if Democrats give him their support. But if we can't win for a third term in 1946 and a fourth term in 1948, I don't think we should bother with a third party. The newspapers are saying, 'All the big papers in Rhode Island opposed Roosevelt, while 80 per cent of the Republican-controlled press in the rest of the nation was against him. He overweighed himself during this editorial opposition. His friends will not be the same.'"

McCall belittled the "Wallace threat" to Democrat election chances.

"The people of Indiana are traditionally against third parties," declared the committee man from Indiana. "Teddy Roosevelt received only slightly more than 40,000 votes in Indiana when he ran as a Bull Moose, and in 1936, when he ran his third party in 1936 was laughed at in my part of the country. That's why we're not worrying about Wallace and his 'bummer' supporters."

McCall belittled the "Wallace threat" to Democrat election chances.

"The people of Indiana are traditionally against third parties," declared the committee man from Indiana. "Teddy Roosevelt received only slightly more than 40,000 votes in Indiana when he ran as a Bull Moose, and in 1936, when he ran his third party in 1936 was laughed at in my part of the country. That's why we're not worrying about Wallace and his 'bummer' supporters."

Washington Mystery

THE gross incompetence of the State Department in the case by the Committee on Un-American Activities which has led the New York Herald Tribune correctly to describe the committee's chairman as "our society's greatest sin" to Congress's "investigation" has already attracted much attention.

But the mystery which surrounds the publication by the Thomas Committee of part of the famous letter from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the Department of Commerce on the subject of Dr. Edward I. Condon's alleged shortcomings. The mystery is simply this: How did Representative Joseph P. Kamp get his version of the FBI letter?

Mr. Robert Stripling, chief investigator for the Thomas Committee, refuses to answer this question. But it is quite obvious, as Mr. Stripling has never bothered to learn how to differentiate between the legitimate reporting of commerce and the tactics of a night working, scandal-mongering peeping-tom. Just because a lot of newspapers buy his column is no reason to exempt him from the high ethical standards adhered to by the Committee. It does not seem logical that a part of glorified peeping-tom should be considered less reprehensible than the plain, back-sley kind.

Even during the recent war, when the security of our Armed Forces was considered involved, Drew Pearson is reported to have jumped the gun more than once with his releases.

When any reporter, writer or columnist becomes so all-fired efficient that he is willing to release without let everything he knows, provided he can't find it, I can do without his stuff very well indeed.

C. WILLIAMS.

Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

WE are angry because we are losing in Europe; and we are losing in Europe because we are not being defensive against Communism. Instead of on the offensive for peace.

There was one thing missing from Secretary Marshall's warning last week about the "loss of the loss" situation. . . . and that was a direct demand upon Moscow for withdrawal of its troops from Europe.

White was in the Army. I found that he enlisted had a friend in Pearson that could not be surprised. In his constant war on industry and industry he frequently stepped on the toes of some of the self-styled industrialists in the Army—much to the satisfaction of the brow-beaten enlisted men. On more than one occasion has he intervened and helped some enlisted man who was getting a "raw deal" from his organization.

One is sometimes judged by his enemies as well as his friends. If this is the case in this instance, then Drew Pearson is certainly to be respected, for among the men who do not, and did not like him are Harry S. Truman and Senator Billie of Mississippi.

—DOUGLAS REDDICK.

World Must Help

CHARLOTTE

Editors: The News:

PLEASE, please keep Drew Pearson's column in your paper. I enjoy it so much.

—MRS. C. H. BALL.

Navy Woods Friends

WASHINGTON

THE Army and Navy are supposed to be united now, but the Navy has started initiating the Army in a drive to win the support of its members.

Every few months a group of prominent educators, editors and industrialists are invited to attend a 10-day school and take on the greatest fear for the world—Latin. In the power and leverage and stature that go with it.

McGrath said he was well aware of the Administration's criticism of the program. He said he would not be directed personally at the President, who was only "arriving out-party policy, laid down by Franklin Roosevelt."

These men will come from nearly Southern States and will pay all their own expenses, explained Capt. A. Macconery, chief of the school.

When pinned down, however, Macconery admitted that the school was not a "training school" but a "conference" in naval parlance, and that several others are also traveling at Government expense.

Macconery said that the school was headed by Captain Macconery, "they will have to pay for their own meals."